

AMNESTY INTERNATIONAL
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International Secretariat, 10 Southampton Street, London WC2E 7HF England

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URGENT ACTION

August 4, 1981 UA 184/81 TORTURE/LEGAL CONCERN

CHILE: Juan Ailio Rigoberto Aguilera
Jorge Ulloa Maria Ulloa

On July 13, 1981 unidentified security agents, believed to be members of the Central Nacional de Informaciones (CNI - Chilean Secret Police), raided the home of Maria Ulloa and her brother Jorge Ulloa in Temuco. Maria Ulloa had been active in various human rights committees in Temuco, including the Comité Proretorno de Exiliados (Committee for the Return of Exiles). Maria and Jorge Ulloa and three Dutch people who were staying with them, as well as Juan Ailio, a Mapuche indian, and Rigoberto Aguilera, a student, who had been visiting them that afternoon, were all taken away at different times during the day to a place called Conripo. There they were held in a house until the following day when the Dutch people, Maria and Jorge Ulloa were released. The other two men remained in detention in Conripo and there has been no news of them since then. The others returned to Temuco but found their house still guarded by the CNI. That evening Maria and Jorge Ulloa and the Dutch people were again taken away, blindfolded and handcuffed, by security agents, this time to Panguipulli in the mountains where they were held in a schoolroom for two days and questioned. On July 16 the three Dutch people were taken back to Temuco and after several days in detention were allowed to leave the country. Maria Ulloa is now reported to be in the women's prison in Temuco and Jorge Ulloa in the men's prison. It is not known how long they were held in Panguipulli or whether they are still being incommunicado. At the time of their arrest, an intense military operation was being carried out in the mountains near Valdivia in search of guerrilla hideouts. One such camp was reportedly found near Panguipulli. Jorge and Maria Ulloa have reportedly been accused of supplying food to guerrillas.

Amnesty International is concerned that Juan Ailio and Rigoberto Aguilera may be held in incommunicado detention and tortured. According to Transitory Provision 24 of the new Chilean constitution, individuals may be held for up to five days in incommunicado detention and in cases of terrorist activities with serious consequences up to 20 days. Torture usually takes place during this period.

Although it is not yet known whether these people are prisoners of conscience, it is thought that they have been arrested for political reasons and because Maria Ulloa had been active in the defence of human rights.

RECOMMENDED ACTION: Telegrams/airmail letters requesting clarification of the whereabouts and legal situation of Juan Ailio and Rigoberto Aguilera and urging that they be humanely treated while in detention. Please also request clarification of the legal situation of Maria and Jorge Ulloa.

APPEALS TO:

Sr. Sergio Fernandez Fernandez
Ministro del Interior
Ministerio del Interior
Edificio Diego Portales
Santiago, Chile

General de Brigada
Ivan Dobud Urqueta
Intendente de las Regiones IX y X
Chile

Write to this person

COPIES TO:

El Mercurio (newspaper)
Compania 1214
Santiago, Chile

Comision Chilona de Derechos Humanos
Casa de Los Derechos Humanos
Alameda Bernardo O'Higgins 1584
Santiago, Chile

ARGENTINA PROJECT (S200000044)

U.S. DEPT. OF STATE, A/RPS/IPS

Margaret P. Grafeld, Director
 Release Excise Deny

Exemption(s): _____
Classify: In Part In Full
 Classify as _____ Extend as _____ Downgrade to _____
Date _____ Declassify on _____ Reason _____

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and to the Chilean Embassy, 1736 Massachusetts Ave. N.W., Washington, DC 20036.

Please send appeals as soon as possible.

FINAL DATE FOR ACTION: September 4, 1981